



EMS Information Bulletin 2023-19

DATE: November 13, 2023

SUBJECT: Appointment of State EMS Director/BEMS Bureau Director

TO: PA Regional EMS Councils
PA EMS Agencies
PA EMS Providers

FROM: Wendy E. Braund, MD, MPH, MEd, FACPM 
Deputy Secretary for Health Preparedness and Community Protection

Effective December 4, 2023, Mr. Anthony Martin will be the Director, Bureau of Emergency Medical Services (EMS), Pennsylvania Department of Health (Department)/State EMS Director.

Mr. Martin comes to the Department from TowerDIRECT, the transfer center and patient placement entity for Tower Health, as well as an EMS agency responding to nearly 40,000 requests for service a year, where he served as the Senior Director. He has been a paramedic for more than 20 years and is passionate about excellence in clinical care, quality education, and the well-being of EMS personnel. He received his Bachelor's Degree in Organizational Leadership from Penn State University and his Master's Degree in Business Administration from Alvernia University. He lives in Northwest Berks County with his wife and their eight children.

We thank our partners for their valuable input about the characteristics and qualities for a new Director. We are confident that Mr. Martin has these characteristics – including a commitment to stakeholder engagement, understanding of the importance of clear communication, and a deep knowledge of the EMS system in Pennsylvania.

Ms. Sunny Podolak will continue to serve as Interim Director of the Bureau of EMS until Mr. Martin starts on December 4, 2023. Please continue to direct business related to the Bureau of EMS to her (or bureau staff) until December 4, 2023. We offer our heartfelt thanks to Ms. Podolak for her service as Interim Director.

The Department remains committed to working with the EMS community to implement initiatives that move the EMS system forward and protect the health and safety of all people in the Commonwealth.

Thank you for your support of Mr. Martin in his new role.